

**General Assembly**

Distr.: General
14 July 1999

Original: English

Fifty-third session**Agenda item 170****Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission
in Kosovo****Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration
Mission in Kosovo****Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions**

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/53/238/Add.1 on the financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided the Committee with additional information and clarifications.

2. By its resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, the Security Council decided on the deployment in Kosovo, under United Nations auspices, of civilian and security presences and authorized the Secretary-General, with the assistance of relevant international organizations, to establish an international civil presence in Kosovo. Paragraph 11 of the Council's resolution outlines the main responsibilities of the international civil presence in Kosovo.

3. The Secretary-General indicates in paragraph 9 of his report (A/53/238/Add.1), that pursuant to the provisions of section IV, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, he is seeking authority to enter into commitments with assessment in an amount not exceeding \$200 million, inclusive of the amount of \$50 million already authorized by the Advisory Committee.

According to the Secretary-General, the commitment authority of up to \$200 million is required to meet the preliminary operating costs of UNMIK from inception until such time as a full budget will be presented to the General Assembly in the Fall.

4. The Advisory Committee points out that, owing to the exigencies of the situation, the Secretary-General has been unable to substantiate his request with the necessary analysis and information. The Advisory Committee notes the explanation of the Secretariat that, pending the return of the advance team, it would be extremely difficult to provide details. A rationale for the figure of \$200 million was not provided. Given the size of the Mission and the urgency involved, the request of the Secretary-General is by way of an advance, which will represent only a small portion of what will likely be required during the mandated period of 12 months. The Advisory Committee was assured, and expects, that the actual budget, which will be submitted in October 1999, will be formulated in the usual fashion with full disclosure, explanation and justification.

5. The report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 12 June 1999 (S/1999/672) contains a preliminary operational concept for the overall organization of the civilian presence in Kosovo; the annex to that report outlines



a preliminary description of the structure of UNMIK. The preliminary concept of operations for the Mission was approved by the Security Council in document S/1999/689 of 17 June 1999. The Advisory Committee was informed during the deliberations that a more detailed concept of operations for UNMIK would be presented by the Secretary-General to the Security Council. The Secretary-General's report (S/1999/779) was issued after the Advisory Committee had completed its consideration of this matter and thus was not taken into account by the Committee, although it was provided with an outline of the organization of the Mission.

6. As indicated in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's report (A/53/238/Add.1), the Mission will be headed by a Special Representative of the Secretary-General whose office will include units for political, economic and legal advice, military liaison and public information. The interim civil administration component of UNMIK will comprise three offices, namely: the Office of the Police Commissioner (approximately 3,000), the Office for Civil Affairs and the Office for Judicial Affairs. (The requirements of the latter two offices are in the process of being identified.) The Committee stresses that all personnel for UNMIK should be obtained in full compliance with financial and personnel rules and regulations of the United Nations and other relevant decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly.

7. The Committee notes from paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's report that, given the time required for the preparation of a full budget and subsequent action thereon, "it is essential that UNMIK be provided not only with commitment authority to meet the costs of the operation, but also with funds". The Advisory Committee was informed by the Controller that, out of \$50 million of commitment authority concurred in earlier by the Committee, approximately \$20 million had been committed during the first two weeks to meet the immediate start-up costs of UNMIK.

8. Furthermore, the Advisory Committee was informed that UNMIK will require significant amounts of readily available cash, owing to the absence of United Nations military contingents where Member States provide initial financing of their contingents and subsequently receive reimbursement from the United Nations.

9. The Advisory Committee, pursuant to the provisions of section IV, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A, recommends that the Secretary-General be granted authority to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding \$200 million, inclusive of the amount of \$50 million already authorized by the Advisory Committee. In considering the requested assessment, the General Assembly, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/233, may wish to take into account the cash flow situation, the timing of the submission of the budget, its size, nature and scope and the factors referred to in paragraph 8 above.



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Fifty-third session

Agenda item 118

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 9 July 1999 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

1. At present, 31 Member States are in arrears under the terms of Article 19 of the Charter, which states as follows:

“A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member.”

2. The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount assessed for the preceding two full years (1997–1998) are the following:

	<i>United States dollars</i>
Bosnia and Herzegovina	177 393.45
Burundi	143 800.00
Cambodia	199 010.00
Central African Republic	122 500.00
Comoros ^a	627 300.00
Congo ^b	316 500.00
Democratic Republic of the Congo	41 000.00
Dominica	33 109.00
Equatorial Guinea	43 465.51
Gambia	143 000.00
Georgia	4 639 800.00
Guinea	133 500.00



	<i>United States dollars</i>
Guinea-Bissau ^b	273 600.00
Iraq	9 135 200.00
Kyrgyzstan	502 600.00
Liberia	939 100.00
Mauritania	122 300.00
Mongolia	114 207.00
Nicaragua ^b	155 200.00
Niger	142 000.00
Republic of Moldova	1 310 889.00
Rwanda	92 116.23
Sao Tome and Principe	404 000.00
Seychelles	87 900.00
Sierra Leone	46 449.00
Somalia	805 400.00
Tajikistan ^a	1 949 962.84
Togo	62 500.00
Turkmenistan	494 200.00
Vanuatu	144 700.00
Yugoslavia	12 678 500.00

a By its decision 53/406 A of 7 October 1998, the General Assembly decided that Comoros and Tajikistan would be permitted to vote in the General Assembly through the fifty-third session of the General Assembly.

b By its decision 53/406 C of 7 April 1999, the General Assembly also decided that the Congo, Guinea-Bissau and Nicaragua would be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until 30 June 2000.

(Signed) Kofi Annan
Secretary-General

**General Assembly**

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Fifty-third session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

**Letter dated 15 July 1999 from the Permanent Representative
of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General**

On instructions from my Government and further to our earlier letter concerning Lebanese detainees in the prisons of the Israeli occupation forces (A/53/1016-S/1999/771), I have the honour to communicate to you the information hereunder.

On the eve of Lebanese Detainee Day, 14 July, the Lebanese hostages being held at the Khiyam prison declared a hunger strike in order to protest against their continued detention in Israeli prisons. A bloody confrontation took place in the prison yard between detainees and Israeli occupation forces as a result of which five detainees had to be taken to Marj Uyun hospital. They were: Mustafa Tawba, Riyadh Kalakish, Husayn Aqil, Ali Ghazi Safir and Sulayman Ramadan.

The Committee for the Defence of Lebanese Detainees in Israeli Prisons has stated in a communiqué that 130 Lebanese are still being detained in Khiyam prison, which is administered by the South Lebanon Army in collaboration with the Israeli enemy, and that there are 21 Lebanese being held in prisons inside Israel, including some who were incarcerated without trial more than 10 years ago and some who have served their sentences but whose detention is extended by administrative decision of the Israeli authorities every six months.

The Lebanese detainees, whether in Khiyam prison or in prisons inside Israel, are being held hostages by the Israeli authorities in violation of all the relevant international

covenants and conventions. They are being held without regard for any law, and they do not enjoy the basic rights for which provision is made in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention against Torture and the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949. That Israel has legitimized the taking of hostages in its laws constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and sets a precedent that is the first of its kind, given that on 12 November 1997 the Supreme Court of Israel ruled that the Lebanese detainees are hostages and represent a bargaining chip. It has never before happened that a court of law has sanctioned the taking of hostages.

In bringing these repeated Israeli practices to your attention, I request you to make every possible effort for the release of the Lebanese detainees in Israeli prisons.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a United Nations document.

(Signed) Selim Tadmoury
Permanent Representative





General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-third session
Agenda item 19
ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Application of the Kingdom of Tonga for admission
to membership in the United Nations

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 135 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of the Kingdom of Tonga for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter dated 8 July 1999 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Kingdom of Tonga to the Secretary-General.



ANNEX

Letter dated 8 July 1999 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
and Defence of the Kingdom of Tonga to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations, and with those of rule 58 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and rule 134 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I have the honour, on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga and in my capacity as Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence, to request the admission of the Kingdom of Tonga as a Member of the United Nations.

I would accordingly be grateful if you would arrange for this application to be placed before the Security Council and the General Assembly for their consideration.

For this purpose, the following declaration is made in pursuance of rule 58 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and rule 134 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (see enclosure).

Enclosure

Declaration

In connection with the application by the Kingdom of Tonga for membership in the United Nations, I have the honour, on behalf of the Kingdom of Tonga, and in my capacity as Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence, to declare that the Kingdom of Tonga accepts the obligations contained in the Charter of the United Nations and solemnly undertakes to fulfil them.

(Signed) 'UluKalala-Lavaka-Ata
Minister for Foreign
Affairs and Defence
